



## BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT ACTIVITY

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### PRESS RELEASE

#### **USAID'S BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT ACTIVITY PRESENTED THE RESULTS OF THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT ASSESSMENT IN MACEDONIA**

On 26 May, 2009, USAID's Business Environment Activity presented the results of the newest report on the assessment of the business environment in Macedonia – BizCLIR. In the presence of representatives from the private and public sector who took part in the BizCLIR Survey, and international donors in the Republic of Macedonia as well, Mr. Mark Walter, consultant from the U.S. consulting company Booz Allen Hamilton, talked about the results and recommendations of the report.

„In most of the researched areas, Macedonia has achieved meaningful progress and the business environment is really improved compared with the times of our previous assessments”, Walter emphasized. “In the upcoming period, efforts have to continue for improving the public – private dialogue, institutional capacity building for proper implementation of the related laws, as well as finding solutions for efficient commercial dispute resolution. Labor market reforms should be based on a flexible approach, leaded by the real market demand”, Walter said.

The assessment of the business environment in accordance with the BizCLIR methodology encompasses a deepened analysis of indicators in several areas, including the legal and regulatory framework; implementing institutions; institutions providing support, and social dynamics. BizClir assessments are aimed at providing the government, donor community and other stakeholders with information on the level of laws' and institutions' efficiency. It provides directions for further improvements and interventions.

Macedonian BizClir Report is focused on research and assessment of the following fields: starting a business; access to credit; employing workers;

enforcement of contracts; trading across border; registration of property; investors' protection and closing a business.

**NOTE TO EDITORS:**

The American people, through USAID, have invested nearly \$500 million in Macedonia since 1993. USAID is implementing projects that create jobs, reduce corruption, and prepare Macedonian students for the workforce. These initiatives improve the quality of life and support Macedonia's transition to a stable and prosperous democracy. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 100 countries. For more information please visit <http://macedonia.usaid.gov>.